



**St John the Divine Church, Selsdon  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**Welcome to St John's!**

If you are a newcomer or a visitor to St John's, we have great pleasure in welcoming you today to our Harvest Service.

The service today will be taken by Revd Stephen Wright.

We are happy you can join us and hope you enjoy the service.

**The Opening Prayer:**

O God, you alone judge rightly and search the depths of the heart. Make us swift to do your will and slow to judge our neighbour, that we may walk with those who follow the way of repentance and faith and so enter your heavenly kingdom. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever **Amen**

**Post Communion Prayer:**

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**First Reading**

The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land with streams that flow from springs in the valleys and hills. You can dig for copper in those hills, and the stones are made of iron ore. And you won't go hungry. Wheat and barley fields are everywhere, and so are vineyards and orchards full of fig, pomegranate, and olive trees, and there is plenty of honey.

After you eat and are full, give praise to the LORD your God for the good land he gave you. Make sure that you never forget the LORD or disobey his laws and

teachings that I am giving you today. If you always obey them, you will have plenty to eat, and you will build good houses to live in. You will get more and more cattle, sheep, silver, gold, and other possessions.

But when all this happens, don't be proud! Don't forget that you were once slaves in Egypt and that it was the LORD who set you free. Remember how he led you in that huge and frightening desert where poisonous snakes and scorpions live. There was no water, but the LORD split open a rock, and water poured out so you could drink. He also gave you manna, a kind of food your ancestors had never even heard about. The LORD was testing you to make you trust him, so that later on he could be good to you.

When you become successful, don't say, "I'm rich, and I've earned it all myself." Instead, remember that the LORD your God gives you the strength to make a living. That's how he keeps the promise he made to your ancestors.

## **Gospel**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven," he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin," we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'

*Matthew 21.23-32*

**For your prayers:**

**We pray for God's love to surround:**

Julia Barclay, David Crietzman, Margaret Rapp, Alan White

**We pray for those who have died recently:**

**We pray for loved ones on the anniversary of their death:**

27th September	Jill Sadler	(1994)
	George Henry Smith	(1999)
28th September	Sally Stewart	(2018)
29th September	Ethel Robinson	(1980)
	Eileen Lamprell	(2012)
	Judy Prew	(2017)
30th September	Terry Francis	(1980)
	Edith Wilcox	(1968)
	Pat Holton	(2010)
	David Lyell	(2011)
	Christopher Deru	(2014)
1st October	Arthur Mears	(1979)
	Christine Barry	(2018)
2nd October	George Horton	(1987)
3rd October	Charles Denny	(1965)
	Jessie Sage	

***If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please email [rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com) And if you would like to include the name of a loved one among the list of the departed on the anniversary of their death, please email Amanda on the above email.***

***Please give NOTICES for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Amanda [bookingsstjohnschurch@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohnschurch@gmail.com) preferably by e-mail, or in writing. It would be helpful to receive this before \* Tuesday \* each week.***

**If you'd like to discuss arranging a baptism (christening), a wedding or a funeral, please call 0208 6572343 or email [rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com)**

We need to keep social distance to a minimum of 1m, swift movement out of the church after services and that, sadly, we cannot serve coffee currently due to revised government guidance

## The Parish Office

Open Mon- Thur 9am-2pm from

For any enquiries please call

0208 6579466

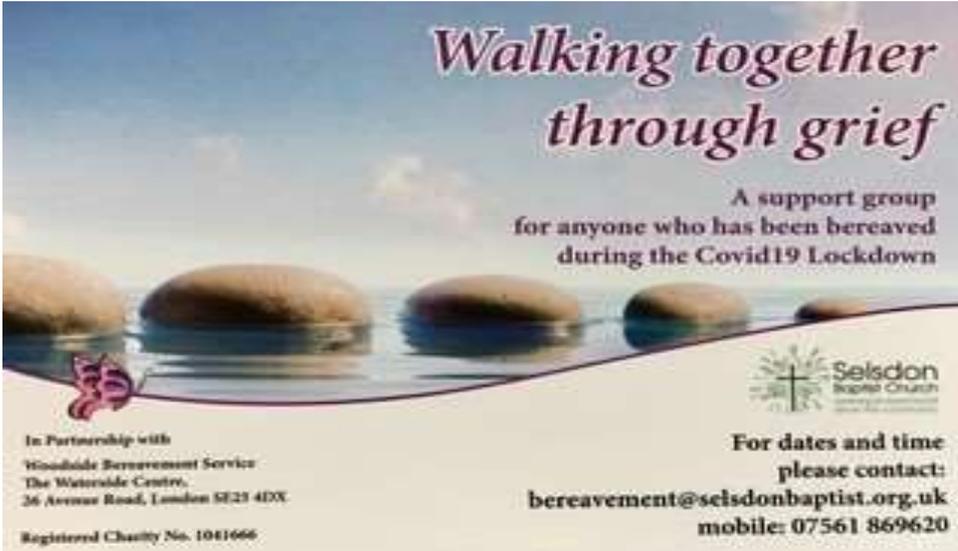
Or email [bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com)

St John's Website address is:

[www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)

To find our Facebook page simply (Google) search

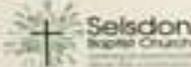
St John's Church, Selsdon



*Walking together  
through grief*

A support group  
for anyone who has been bereaved  
during the Covid19 Lockdown

In Partnership with  
Woodside Bereavement Service  
The Waterside Centre,  
26 Avenue Road, London SE23 4DX  
Registered Charity No. 1041666

 Selsdon  
Baptist Church

For dates and time  
please contact:  
[bereavement@selsdonbaptist.org.uk](mailto:bereavement@selsdonbaptist.org.uk)  
mobile: 07561 869620

## **Interregnum update**

We have some progress to report on finding a new Rector for St. John's.

The post will be advertised in September/October and shortlisted applicants invited to visit the parish in early November and for interview by our parish representatives together with the Bishop of Croydon. We have added our Parish profile to our website you can have a look by searching for

[www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)

## **Church Hall**

The Church Hall Management Committee have undertaken a review and risk assessment in regarding to reopening the hall. Their report is available on the church website. The Standing Committee of the PCC have agreed that the hall can be open for hire under the guidelines agreed.



## **Meeting God in Silence –**

**Returns from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 6 pm in the Garden Room at St. John's led by Susan Oakes.**

**A chance for quiet reflection and prayer in a safe space. Please join us.**

*Thanks Helen*



# Fancy a Chat?.....

**Join us for our Zoom coffee mornings returning on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am for an hour.**

**The sessions will run every two weeks**

**Please email Amanda [bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com) to get a login for the sessions.**

We say goodbye to Margaret Pittard who has moved to Petts Wood on 25<sup>th</sup> September. Margaret ran the office and hall bookings for a number of years and will be missed. Thank you for all your help over the years Margaret.



Good Luck in your new home

Raise FREE funds for us when you shop over 4,000+ online stores

Please help us to raise funds for St John's while you do your online shopping. Its so easy you can even get the app on your phone. Every time you shop online you could raise FREE ££'s for us! It takes 2 mins to sign up to @GiveasyouLive and they'll turn a percentage of everything you buy into a donation to us.



- It's free
- There's a handy app
- There are over 4,000 stores!

[www.giveasyoulive.com/join/stjohns](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/stjohns)

Please join us **Today at 11.15 am in church after the 10am service; for our APCM safely socially distanced, of course.**



Robert Thornton had planned to stand down as Churchwarden in March but has valiantly remained in post over this difficult time. However he has now resigned from the post and the PCC have agreed to Debbie Brown taking over as acting Churchwarden pending her election at our forthcoming APCM.

Robert has kindly agreed to carry on assisting at Sunday services for the time being and we are extremely grateful to him for his support and cheery backing through the last few months. Please welcome Debbie as she steps into her new role.

At this meeting we hope to elect 2 Churchwardens, 4 new members to PCC. and 4 new representatives to Deanery Synod.

*Nominations already received:*

As Churchwarden:	Debbie Brown	proposed by Helen Lishmund seconded by Gill Salter
	Ian Harley	proposed by Wendy Moulton seconded by Sally Geddes

As PCC members:	Sarah Parsons	proposed by Rani Samuel seconded by Sally Geddes
	Ann Crocombe	proposed by Monica Turton seconded by Susan Tilley
	Ian Brentnall	proposed by Alice Hicks Seconded by Joanna Sands
	Gill Sharpe	proposed by David Moulton seconded by Helen Lishmund
	Fiona McSorley	proposed by Peter Crocombe Seconded by Ros Harley

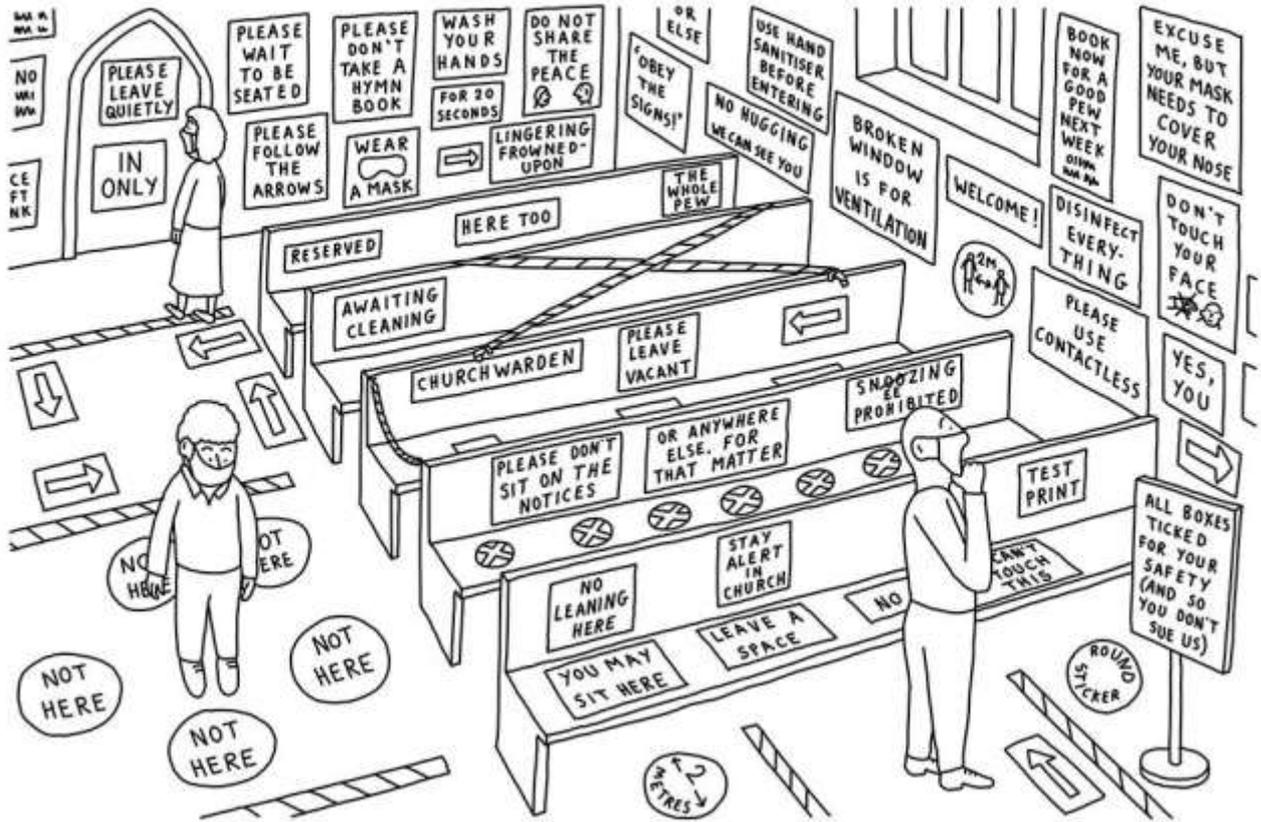
As Deanery synod Representatives	Gill Salter	proposed by Ann Orchard seconded by Sylvia Hughes
	Robin Orchard	proposed by Robert Thornton Seconded by David Moulton
	Helen Lishmund	proposed by Ann Woods seconded by June Mason
	Sue Tilley	proposed by Margaret Mead seconded by Debbie Brown
	Alice Hicks	proposed by Sue Tilley Seconded by Helen Lishmund

It is hoped that all members of the parish will give prayerful and thoughtful consideration to nominating people who wish to promote the mission of the parish, and who, amongst them, can offer a range of experience, skills and outlook to the Council. Please would everyone in St John's church family give some prayerful thought to who could serve in this capacity in the coming year, and if you have any suggestions on who you would like to see as your Churchwarden, on PCC or Deanery Synod, please mention names to Ian and Debbie – *Thank you!*

Something to make you smile this week .....

# SIGNAGE

DURING A PANDEMIC



*thank you*

for joining us this morning

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